

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7824
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, EAID, GW, UR
SUBJECT: BAHR VISIT TO MOSCOW

REFS: (A) BONN 7123; (B) MOSCOW 8063

1. GERMAN PRESS COVERAGE OF EGON BAHR'S 15-MINUTE COURTESY CALL ON BREZHNEV FOCUSES ON THE SPD OFFICIAL'S STATEMENT THAT DISARMAMENT, INCLUDING THE NEUTRON BOMB, WILL BE THE MAIN TOPIC OF THE SOVIET LEADER'S VISIT HERE. BAHR REPORTEDLY OPINED FURTHER THAT THE THREE AGREEMENTS HELD UP OVER BERLIN WILL NOT BE PRINCIPAL AGENDA ITEMS OF THE VISIT. BAHR SAID HE HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT BREZHNEV WAS INTERESTED IN MAKING DETENTE MORE SOLID AND LONG LASTING.

2. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS HERE, BREZHNEV BEGAN THE MEETING BY STATING THAT BOTH THE SOVIETS AND THE GERMANS MUST MAKE AN EFFORT TO "FILL THE VISIT (BREZHNEV'S) WITH POLITICAL SUBSTANCE." HE IS SAID TO HAVE CATEGORIZED HIS FORTHCOMING TRIP AS A MEANS OF FURTHERING DETENTE AND STIMULATING "NEW IMPULSES" IN FRG-SOVIET RELATIONS.

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3. BAHR TOLD GERMAN REPORTERS THAT, IN HIS TALKS WITH BREZHNEV AND OTHER SOVIETS, HE HAD REPRESENTED FRG VIEWS AND NOT HIS OWN. HE SAID HIS VISIT HAD BEEN AGREED TO BY BOTH SCHMIDT AND GENSCHER. HE NOTED THAT THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE WAS THE MAIN THEME OF HIS TALKS AND HE HAD POINTED OUT THATQTE. THE

SOVIET UNION CAN DELIVER MORE THAN WEAPONS UNQTE. TO
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

4. BAHR'S VISIT HAS BEEN CRITICIZED BY CDU FOREIGN
POLICY SPOKESMEN WHO HAVE LABELED THE SPD OFFICIAL
"A SHADOW FOREIGN MINISTER."
STOESSEL

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